

Utah Seismic Safety Commission

Meeting
April 7, 2006
Minutes

On April 7, 2006 a regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Utah Seismic Safety Commission was held in Room 5112 at the State Office Building, Salt Lake City, Utah. Chairman Barry Welliver called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present:

-Walter J. Arabasz	U of U Seismograph Stations
-Kerry Baum	Association of Contingency Planners
-Doug Bausch	Federal Emergency Management Agency (Ex-Officio)
-Roger Evans	Utah League of Cities & Towns
-Jim Higbee*	Utah Department of Transportation
-Peter W. McDonough	American Society of Civil Engineers
-Representative Morley	Utah House of Representatives
-Barry Smith	Western Mountain Region, American Inst. of Architect
-Barry H. Welliver	Chair, Structural Engineers Association of Utah
* representing Todd Jensen	

Members Not Present:

Rick Allis	Utah Geological Survey
Brian Carver	Governor's Office of Planning & Budget
Matt Cassel	American Public Works Association
Sheila Curtis	Utah Insurance Department
Peter C. Knudson	Utah State Senate
Matthias Mueller	Utah Division of Facilities Const. & Management
Mark Petersen	U.S. Geological Survey (Ex-Officio)
Verdi White	Utah Division of Emergency Services/DPS

DES Staff Present:

-Bob Carey	Operations & Natural Hazards Section, DES
-Amisha Lester	Operations & Natural Hazards Section, DES

UGS Staff Present:

-Gary Christenson	Geologic Hazards Program, Utah Geological Survey
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Guests Present/Committee Members:

-Steven Bartlett	U of U CE Department
-Relu Burlacu	U of U Seismograph Stations
-Stephen Cohen	Calder Richards Consulting Engineering
-David Eixenberger	UDOT-Bridge Operations
-Scott Holt	State Farm Insurance
-Kelly Johnson	S.A.F.E
-Brent Spradley	State Farm Insurance
-Jason vonWeller	International Code Council
-Gary Wallace	S.A.F.E.
-Jane Z. Zhang	Utah State Office of Education

➤ **WELCOME/OVERVIEW**

Utah Seismic Safety Commission (USSC) Chairman Barry Welliver welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

➤ **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Barry Welliver asked for any corrections and comments to the minutes.

Motion: *Kerry Baum made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting held on January 13, 2006. Barry Smith seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.*

➤ **40TH ANNIVERSARY OF U OF U SEISMOGRAPH STATIONS**

Walter Arabasz reported on the 40th Anniversary of the University of Utah Seismograph Stations. For more information about the Seismograph Stations you can log on to www.quake.utah.edu or www.earthquake.usgs.gov.

➤ **RESULTS OF THE 2006 EARTHQUAKE WORKING GROUP MEETINGS**

Gary Christenson gave the results of the fourth annual meetings of Utah's Ground Shaking, Quaternary Fault Parameters, and Liquefaction Working Groups that were held on February 14-16, 2006. Each working group discussed 2005 research results and upcoming 2006 projects, and set priorities for 2007 research. Working group leaders are Ivan Wong, URS Corporation/University of Utah (Ground Shaking Working Group); Bill Lund, UGS (Quaternary Fault Parameters Working Group), and Steven Bartlett, University of Utah (Liquefaction Working Group). The working groups meet each year to set priorities and coordinate earthquake research in Utah. **Summaries of the 2007 working group meetings are posted at the UGS Web site:** <http://ugs.utah.gov/ghp/workgroups/index.htm>.

➤ **2000-2005 USSC PROGRESS REPORT**

Barry Welliver spoke on the 2000-2005 USSC Progress Report. All Commissioners are to give final thoughts and changes on the progress report. The final report comments are to be submitted to Barry Welliver by May 15, 2006.

➤ **PRESENTATION BY SAFE**

Gary Wallace and Kelly Johnson gave a presentation for S.A.F.E. (Save All From Earthquakes). Kelly Johnson's website is www.utaearthquake.org. The Commission had positive feedback and interaction with S.A.F.E.

➤ **URM INITIATIVE/OTHER LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**

Barry Welliver spoke on the URM initiative and other legislative issues. The URM ad hoc committee gave its presentation to the Legislative interim committee and recognized the need to carry out its recommendation for some form of inventory of the unreinforced masonry buildings in the state. Several methods were discussed including a possible sidewalk survey in the Murray/Salt Lake City area. Rapid Visual Screening was discussed as the tool which would provide a beginning inventory of the extent of the URM problem.

Walter Arabasz mentioned that the USSC should be a part of the Governor's initiative – BeReadyUtah Campaign. An assessment of Utah's URM's should be relevant to this campaign.

Barry made contact with the Utah State Historical Society. They have surveyed over 95,000 structures in Utah. This raw data is available on the web.

Representative Morley mentioned that the County Assessor may also have data that can be used.

➤ **NEWS**

Gary Christenson reported on the Western States Seismic Policy Council (WSSPC) award nominations. WSSPC has expanded membership to include seismic safety commissions. USSC needs to have a formal representative present at the annual WSSPC meeting.

Motion: *Barry Smith made a motion for the current Chairman to represent the Commission at the WSSPC meeting. Peter McDonough seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.*

Motion: *Gary Christenson made a motion for USSC to become a member of WSSPC. Barry Smith seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.*

Walter Arabasz reported on Mary Lou Zoback's presentation on the 1906 San Francisco earthquake. The setting of the presentation was the Salt Lake City Library before an audience of about 100 and was broadcast live on radio. The presentation described the political environment at the time of the earthquake, the damage that resulted from the earthquake and fire, the recovery, and the continuing importance for seismic monitoring.

Bob Carey gave an update on the Commission budget. UGS has yet to bill USSC for the teacher workshops. The 2000-2005 USSC Progress report may cost more than originally thought due to printing with full color.

Motion: *Walter Arabasz made a motion for the USSC to increase the budget for the progress report from \$2500 to \$3500. Barry Smith seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.*

Barry Welliver reported that the 2006 Earthquake Preparedness Week proclamation signing went very well. Name tags were created for the occasion.

Barry reminded Commissioners that the July USSC meeting will be the annual election of the Chair and Vice Chairs. He encouraged all those that would like to be involved to please come forward. Jake Watson will be replacing Barry on the Commission to represent SEAU.

The Commission discussed having a USSC meeting outside of the Salt Lake City area, perhaps in the southern part of the state.

➤ **NEXT MEETING**

DATE: Friday, July 28, 2006
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: State Office Building, Room 5112

➤ **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.